



# NEWS RELEASE

## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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### **Howard County Police to Host *National Night Out* Crime-Fighting Event**

Police officers and members of the Howard County community are joining forces Aug. 2 in an effort to fight back against crime. National Night Out, being observed by communities around the nation, is intended to generate participation and support for local crime prevention activities.

“Community participation is essential in fighting crime,” said Howard County Chief of Police G. Wayne Livesay. “National Night Out may last for only one evening, but the partnership between Howard County residents and our officers will be an ongoing effort.”

In preparing for National Night Out, the police department has worked to heighten awareness and strengthen community spirit by helping residents organize neighborhood block parties throughout the county.

Police are asking citizens to turn on outside lights and spend at least one hour in front of their homes—on their porches, balconies, front steps or lawns—to send a message to criminals that communities are banding together to fight crime. The police department and community groups have planned more than 30 block parties between 6 and 10 p.m., including events at the satellite offices in Long Reach, Harper’s Choice, Oakland Mills and North Laurel. These special parties will include music, food and many neighborhood participants.

For more information about National Night Out, including a list of party locations, visit the Howard County Police Department’s Web site at [www.hcpd.org](http://www.hcpd.org).

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